

## [Early Days In Silver City and Grant Co.]

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Early Days in Silver City and Grant Co. C.[?] N. Mex.

I left Tennessee in in 1880 and came to New Mexico in 1881 arriving at Old Town for my first stop in Grant county. Senor Pena was running the store there at the time. I will never forget the fact that he served buttermilk with our meal, and I thought that it was the best milk that I ever drink. I settled in the [Zappo?] and Mimbres district living on the Membres most of the time.

I was living on the Membres when a Mr hayes was killed over near Lake Valley in Sierras Co by the Indians. Mr Moore my nearest [neighborwished?] to go over to his place at Lake Valley and wanted me to go with his after Mr. Hayes was killed. We were nearing Mule Springs when I noticed a [?] track. I said "Look there are tracks".

Mr Moore replied "Oh they probably belong to some Mexican."

I soon Cried "LOOK Look the large tracks of the Indian". Moore said "Lets go Jesus Christ is that [fellowin?] this part of the country"? He began to kick and spur his horse and we

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were really leaving that part of the country. In all of the recent raids there was an unusually large track and when this track was seen it was generally known that some cruelty and destruction had been done in the vicinity and everyone had a horror of meeting the warrior and wanted to get away from the place that he was likely to be round around. We soon caught up with a [Cink?] and told him that the Indians were behind us and he said "Me no see Indians" but he soon had his horse in a run also when we told him of the large track.

We went on home and near night a follow came by and told us the Indians were near and we were to go the Brown place. We went over to the place and spent the night and the next morning returned home to find 3 [2?]

that the Indians had taken a large stone and thrown threw the door and had gone into the house and taken all of the best blankets and we had a long handled frying pan which they took and left us a short handled one. They took our violin and laid it tin the floor with the bow across the center.

The Indians were never as bad as they were pictured, but I will admit there was times that none of us wished to see them Nana, Geronimo or any of the others, but as a rule the uprising started over some mistreatment that the Indians received.